

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01987 020726 Z

11

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

COA-02 INT-08 OMB-01 CG-00 COME-00 NSF-04 DOTE-00

EB-11 JUSE-00 RSR-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 /173 W

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R 020556 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7082

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1987

E. O. 11652: XGDS 4/2/93

TAGS: PBOR, UN, CH, KS

SUBJECT: LOS: PRC LOS TREATY ARTICLES

REFS: A. USUN 865, B. USUN 867

1. REQUEST PERMISSION TO DISCUSS PRC DRAFT LOS
TREATY ARTICLES (REF A) WITH CONCERNED ROKG OFFICIALS, AND
PASS COPY OF CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. INFORMATION CONTAINED
THERIN ON PRC VIEWS OF BASELINE DETERMINATION MAY BE USEFUL
RELATIVE TO OIL EXPLORATION CONCESSION ZONES IN YELLOW SEA,
BOUNDARIES OF WHICH ROKG HAS OFFERED TO DISCUSS WITH PRC.

2. EMBASSY FEELS THAT ROKG WOULD BE IN FAVOR SECTION IV,
PART I PRC DRAFT DEALING WITH STRAITS, BUT WOULD OPPOSE
OPEN ENDED TERRITORIAL SEA AND ECONOMIC ZONE CONCEPTS SINCE
THESE COULD CONCEIVABLY THREATEN KOREAN CAPACITY TO ENGAGE
IN DISTANT WATER FISHERY. REACTION TO ARTICLES 4-9 WOULD
DEPEND UPON WHERE MEDIAN LINES DRAWN ON CHINESE BASIS
WOULD FALL IN RELATION TO EXISTING SHELF CLAIMS AND POTENTIAL
RESOURCE LOCATIONS. IN DETERMINING BOUNDARIES OF UNILATERALLY
DECLARED OIL EXPLORATION CONCESSION BLOCKS ROKG RELIED UPON
MEDIAN LINE PRINCIPLE IN YELLOW AND JAPAN SEAS, AND ON NATURAL
PROLONGATION PRINCIPLE IN EAST CHINA SEA. MOST ATTRACTIVE
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GEOLOGIC STRUCTURES GENERALLY LIE TOWARD EXTREMES OF ROK
ZONES. FOR POLITICAL REASONS COMPANIES HAVE CHOSEN TO DRILL
IN SECOND BEST BUT LESS CONTROVERSIAL PORTIONS OF CONCESSION
BLOCKS, BUT HAVE HAD DRY HOLES ONLY, SO FAR. ROKG MIGHT
ACCEPT CHINESE BASELINES IF THESE TEND TO MORE OR LESS
CONFIRM CONCESSION ZONE BOUNDARIES.
HABIB

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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